

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 11070 230351Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 EUR-12 SP-02 INR-07 EB-07
/051 W

-----047263 230400Z /15

R 230215Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9577

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11070

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR JA US OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJECT: BRIEFING BOOK FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT: TOKYO, MOSCOW,
PEKING

1. THE JAPANESE CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO MAINTAIN A STABLE
BALANCE IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA,
SEEKING CORDIAL AND PROFITABLE RELATIONS WITH BOTH WHILE
AVOIDING TOO CLOSE AN IDENTIFICATION WITH EITHER. DESPITE
RECENT POLITICAL PROBLEMS WITH THE SOVIETS AND TO A LESSER
DEGREE WITH THE CHINESE, ECONOMIC RELATIONS HAVE CONTINUED
TO DEVELOP IN A SATISFACTORY MANNER. THOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE
THAT POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC PRESSURES MAY MOVE THE
FUKUDA GOVERNMENT TO MAKE SOME NEW GESTURE IN REGARD TO
THE LONG-DELAYED PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH THE PRC
IN THE NEAR FUTURE, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE JAPANESE WILL
STEER TOO FAR FROM THEIR CAUTIOUS CENTRAL COURSE BETWEEN
PEKING AND MOSCOW.

2. THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN THE MOST CONTENTIOUS IN RECENT
HISTORY FOR JAPAN-SOVIET RELATIONS, BEGINNING WITH THE
MIG-25 INCIDENT LAST FALL AND CONTINUING WITH THE
UNPRECEDENTEDLY TOUGH AND PROLONGED FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS
THIS SPRING. IN THE LATTER, THE SOVIETS, WITH AN EYE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 11070 230351Z

TOWARDS JAPAN'S RESOURCE VULNERABILITY, MADE A DETERMINED
EFFORT TO UNDERCUT TRADITIONAL JAPANESE CLAIMS TO THE
DISPUTED NORTHERN ISLANDS BY APPLYING PRESSURE ON
JAPANESE FISHERIES. BY AND LARGE, THE JAPANESE WERE
ABLE TO SIDE-STEP THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE. BUT ONLY AT A
COST OF SIZEABLE CUTS IN THE FISH CATCH THEY WILL BE
ABLE TO TAKE IN WATERS OF THE NEW SOVIET 200 MILE ZONE--

A SERIOUS BLOW TO THE CONTINUED VIABILITY OF NORTHERN JAPANESE FISHERIES.

3. SOVIET BEHAVIOR IN THE FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS AROUSED UNUSUALLY INTENSE NATIONALIST, ANTI-SOVIET POPULAR SENTIMENT WITHIN JAPAN. SINCE THE CONCLUSION OF AN INTERIM FISHERIES AGREEMENT IN LATE MAY, HOWEVER, BOTH THE SOVIETS AND JAPANESE HAVE SIGNALLED THEIR DESIRE TO REPAIR THE RELATIONSHIP THROUGH A SERIES OF VISITS AND STATEMENTS WHICH, WHILE NOT COMPROMISING ON THE BASIC TERRITORIAL QUESTION, HAVE STRESSED A THEME OF IMPROVED ECONOMIC TIES. THUS FAR BOTH SIDES HAVE KEPT THE CURRENT ROUND OF FISHERIES TALKS (ON SOVIET CATCHES IN JAPANESE WATERS) LOW-KEY AND DISPASSIONATE. DESPITE THIS GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT IN ATMOSPHERICS, HOWEVER, THE GOJ HAS REMAINED CHARACTERISTICALLY WARY OF RENEWED SOVIET SUGGESTIONS THAT IT SIGN A "GOOD NEIGHBOR TREATY" OR ESTABLISH A GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR LONG-TERM ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

4. DURING THIS SPRING'S CHILL BETWEEN TOKYO AND MOSCOW, PEKING MADE A VISIBLE EFFORT TO ADOPT A FRIENDLY AND FORTHCOMING POSTURE TOWARD JAPAN. IN APRIL, KEIDANREN PRESIDENT DOKO RETURNED FROM THE PRC WITH CHINESE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO NEGOTIATION OF A MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR LONG-TERM TRADE AGREEMENT THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TOKYO 11070 230351Z

WOULD EXCHANGE CHINESE OIL AND COAL FOR JAPANESE MANUFACTURES. SINCE EARLY SUMMER, HOWEVER, (APPROXIMATELY WHEN JAPAN-SOVIET RELATIONS BEGAN TO IMPROVE) THE CHINESE HAVE DISPLAYED SOME PIQUE TOWARD THE FUKUDA GOVERNMENT. THE PROTESTED WITH SURPRISING VIGOR DUE TO RATIFICATION OF THE KOREAN CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENT AS ENCROACHMENT ON CHINESE WATERS, AND HAVE CONTINUED TO CRITICIZE FUKUDA'S FAILURE TO CONCLUDE THE LONG-DELAYED PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH ITS TROUBLESOME ANTI-HEGEMONY CLAUSE.

5. DESPITE THESE POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES, DAY-TO-DAY ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN TOKYO AND BOTH PEKING AND MOSCOW HAVE CONTINUED TO DEVELOP. JAPAN HAS REMAINED CHINA'S BIGGEST TRADING PARTNER (ESTIMATED \$3.4 BILLION IN 1977) AND IF DOKO'S LONG-TERM TRADE AGREEMENT CAN BE SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATED, THIS TREND SHOULD ACCELERATE. JAPANESE TRADE WITH THE SOVIETS IS AT AN ALMOST SIMILAR LEVEL AND IS EXPECTED TO HOLD STEADY. ALTHOUGH JOINT EXPLOITATION OF SIBERIAN RESOURCES HAS PROGRESSED MORE SLOWLY THAN THE SOVIETS HAVE DESIRED, THE JAPANESE HAVE INVESTED \$1.47 BILLION IN SIBERIAN COAL, TIMBER

AND NATURAL GAS PROJECTS.
MANSFIELD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO11070
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770263-0293
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770725/aaaaavlj.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e0c7f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1766045
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING BOOK FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT: TOKYO, MOSCOW, PEKING
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, ECON, JA, US, UR, CH, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e0c7f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009